

Community/Agency: City of St. Charles_____

Reporting Year: 2020

Contact Person: Brian Herrmann

Email: bherrmann@stcharlesil.gov

Kane County Natural Hazards Mitigation

Action Item Progress

1.	Building Code Improvements
<i>Adopt the latest International series of codes to improve the hazard protection standards for new construction and ensure a consistent set of building standards.</i>	
The City has adopted the 2015 International Building Code (Multi Family/Commercial) and the 2015 International Residential Code (Single Family)	
2.	Improved Code Enforcement
<i>Develop and conduct training for building department staff on the natural hazards aspects of the International Codes, regulation of mobile home installation, and the County stormwater ordinance and its flood protection, wetland protection, erosion and sediment control and best management practices.</i>	
The City currently has three Certified Floodplain Managers on staff. At a minimum the CRS Coordinator attends the annual IAFSM conference.	
3.	Review of Plans and Development Regulations
<i>Incorporate mitigation provisions into comprehensive plans, land use plans, and zoning and subdivision ordinances.</i>	
The City has adopted the 2019 update of the Kane County Stormwater Management Ordinance.	
During 2020 the City has been working with a consultant on an update to its Stormwater Management Program Plan.	
4.	Retrofitting Incentives
<i>Establish a program of technical assistance and financial incentives to encourage property protection measure on private property.</i>	
The City of St. Charles continued to offer residents a program to reimburse them up to 50% of the cost, up to \$2,500 total, to install backflow prevention on their sewer service. This program is meant to help residents that have experienced past problems with sewerage backups.	
5.	Repetitive Loss Projects
<i>Protect the buildings in repetitive loss areas through acquisition or elevation.</i>	
The City sends out direct mailings to all repetitive loss properties annually.	

6.	Drainage Maintenance
<i>Implement a formal and regular drainage system maintenance program.</i>	
<p>Open channel inspections, both public and private, were conducted through the Public Works Department.</p> <p>Detention basin inspections, both public and private, were conducted through the Community Development Department.</p> <p>“No Dumping in Stream” signs are maintained at various waterway locations within the City.</p>	
7.	Urban Forestry
<i>Implement an urban forestry program that qualifies the municipality to become a Tree City, USA.</i>	
<p>St. Charles has been and continues to be a Tree City, USA recipient. The City has an ongoing program to remove trees on public property that are diseased or found to be infected with Emerald Ash Borer.</p>	
8.	Flood Threat Recognition
<i>Continue current funding of rain and stream gages throughout the county.</i>	
<p>Continuing in 2020 a link has been made available on the City’s Floodplain Page to the Fox River gauge in Algonquin, IL. During periods of high water the City monitors river elevations in the downtown area.</p> <p>Continuing in 2020 a link has been made available on the City’s Floodplain Page to USGS Gauge No. 05551200 on Ferson Creek.</p>	
9.	Improved Emergency Response
<i>Conduct a review of emergency response plans and programs.</i>	
<p>The City has encouraged residents to enroll in Code Red through articles published in the City newsletter.</p>	
10.	Flood Control Projects
<i>Implement flood control projects, including farm drainage improvements and projects to improve bridges and culverts, where they prove to be the most appropriate approach to reduce flood damage.</i>	
<p>Plans for 7th Avenue Creek Phase One improvements were put out for bid in late 2020. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2021. The goals of the improvements are to reduce flooding along the creek and tributary, minimize stream erosion, improve stream ecology, and revitalize the neighborhood along the project corridor.</p>	

The City acquired and demolished two homes along 7th Avenue Creek that were impacted by the floodplain and floodway per the preliminary flood maps.

The City installed additional storm sewer and inlets at the intersection of Walnut and South 17th Streets to reduce ponding during heavy storms.

11. Hazard Mitigation Materials

Prepare background information, articles, and other explanations of hazard mitigation topics.

Continuing in 2020 hazard mitigation brochures were made available to the public through the Public Works Division, the Building and Code Enforcement Office and the City website. Topics from the information brochures are regularly published in the City's newsletter.

12. Outreach Projects

Prepare and disseminate mitigation information based on the materials provided under action item 11.

The City sends out direct mailings to all floodplain properties annually.

The City sends out floodplain information mailings to lenders, real estate and insurance offices annually.

The City maintains a "Floodplain Page" on its website. Elevation certificates on file are available, as well as FEMA Letters of Map change. There are numerous links to resources to assist residents with drainage concerns.

13. Plan Adoption

Adopt the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan by passing a resolution.

The City has adopted the most current Natural Hazard Mitigation plan from Kane County.

14. Mitigation Committee

The Natural Hazards Planning Committee has been converted to a permanent advisory body.

Representatives from the City have participated in meetings conducted for the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan update.

15. Community Rating System

Determine whether to apply for a Community Rating System flood insurance premium rate discount.

The City has maintained its CRS Class 5 rating.